

# Northern Colorado Bike & Ped Collaborative

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Windsor Recreation Center, Pine Room

250 11th St. Windsor, CO 80550



## 1. Introductions

- ❖ **Bob Hinderaker**, Poudre River Trail Corridor
- ❖ **Justin Scharon**, City of Greeley Natural Areas
- ❖ **Kathy Davis**, Greeley Citizen Transportation Advisory Board
- ❖ **Katie Guthrie**, City of Loveland Public Works Department
- ❖ **Kelly Zuniga**, City of Loveland Open Lands Department
- ❖ **Leslie Beckstrom**, Weld County Department of Public Health and Environment
- ❖ **Matt Ruder**, City of Loveland Public Works Department
- ❖ **Mitch Nelson**, Town of Severance
- ❖ **Nancy Nichols**, City of Fort Collins FC Moves
- ❖ **Ryan Dusil**, NFRMPO
- ❖ **Suzanne Bassinger**, City of Fort Collins Parks Department
- ❖ **Tom Jones**, Great Western Trail Authority
- ❖ **Will Karspeck**, Town of Berthoud Mayor
- ❖ **Zac Wiebe**, Larimer County Department of Natural Resources

## 2. 2019 NFRMPO Multimodal Options Fund (MMOF) Call for Projects Timeline

Dusil stated the Call for Projects is now open and December 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for communities to submit their match relief request (if applicable) to the NFRMPO so they can be considered by the Colorado Transportation Commission (TC) in January 2020.

## 3. Draft NoCo Bike & Ped Collaborative Values and Operating Guidelines

NoCo discussed the Draft document created by a subcommittee of six NoCo members. The document incorporates feedback from NoCo's three facilitated discussions held in 2019. The document updates NoCo's existing vision, mission, goals, and objectives, and formalizes the membership, leadership and voting structure, decision making process, meetings and reports schedule, and funding norms. These components of the group's operation were previously undefined and/or informally agreed upon periodically.

For items the group will vote on, NoCo members suggested setting a minimum attendance of 10. The group also suggested scoring guidelines be set on a case-by-case basis for the NFRMPO's biennial Call for Projects and other items to address potential conflict of interest or overrepresentation concerns.

NoCo members suggested identifying the current voting members, alternates, and empty voting slots for each organization in Appendix A.

Zuniga suggested reordering the goals listed within the Mission Statement to match the order in the Goals and Objectives.

Bassinger stated Fort Collins Parks should be listed as Park Planning and Development. The department titles for Greeley, Loveland, and Larimer County should be corrected as well.

Beckstrom stated a promotional flyer/brochure is being developed that NoCo can distribute to new members and those who might be interested in joining. The flyer will describe what the group does and the benefits of being involved to encourage participation.

The Values and Operating Procedures were adopted unanimously with the proposed changes. Nelson and Guthrie expressed interest in serving on the Leadership Team.

Dusil will update the Voting Membership Structure based on interest and recent attendance and send a request to NoCo members for self-nominations for the remaining Leadership Team slots. In early 2020, NoCo will generate a promotional sheet highlighting the value of the group to stakeholders, give a NoCo Bike & Ped 101 presentation to TAC, and discuss the Values and Operating Procedures with them.

#### **4. Roundtable Updates**

Guthrie stated the Connect Loveland Plans should be adopted in April 2020. Staff could give a brief presentation on the plans at the January NoCo meeting. Loveland Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) members have been working on their elevator speech to summarize what the City is up to. YAC members have been sharing the online bus tracking application with peers.

Nelson stated Severance submitted an application for the CDOT Region 4 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Call for Projects and is working on an MMOF application now. The Town will soon be updating its Transportation Master Plan and has hired JR Engineering out of Centennial, CO.

Jones stated the Great Western Trail Authority (GWTA) is still working with a landowner to resolve an ownership dispute for a short section of the Great Western rail right-of-way. Resolving the conflicting surveys may require legal action. There is also a possibility the short section of trail could be rerouted slightly. Jones hopes to have updated information within the next month.

Wiebe stated Larimer County recently broke ground on the Kyger Trail that will connect to River Bluffs Open Space to Kyger Reservoir. There will be a trailhead at Weld County Road (WCR) 13 and the trail will eventually connect to the Town of Windsor's trail system.

Scharton stated the City of Greeley is working on an MMOF application for a section of the Larson Trail that will eventually connect Greeley neighborhoods directly to the Poudre River Trail.

Hinderaker stated the first sections of the trail were constructed in Greeley and Windsor in 1994. Now that the trail corridor is continuous between Windsor and Greeley, the Poudre River Trail Corridor, Inc. is starting to focus on connecting east to the South Platte River.

Nichols stated the Safe Routes to School National Conference in November had great sessions on bike field trips and more focus on adaptive cycling than in the past. Mara Mintzer with Colorado University was the keynote speaker and discussed how children can help design cities. Mintzer previously recorded a TED Talk on how it has worked in Boulder and is co-author of [Placemaking with Children and Youth](#). Nichols stated there is a Front Range Safe Routes to School Collaborative that holds quarterly meetings if anyone is interested. Nichols stated the 2020 Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) International Conference will be held in Denver and there will be some SRTS topics.

Beckstrom stated Greeley will be holding its annual Polar Pedal group bike ride on January 18, 2020 and registration is likely to be between 30-60 riders. Weld County's Community Health Survey will be closing soon. Results should be ready in late spring. Beckstrom will bring the results to NoCo for discussion. Young-Winne stated Suman Mathur with the Larimer County Health District would be a good person to include in that discussion.

Bassinger stated the City of Fort Collins applied for TAP grant funding for a railroad underpass near Keenland Drive in Fort Collins, connecting neighborhoods east of the railroad to the Power Trail. The estimated cost of the Power Trail grade-separated crossing of Harmony Road has grown to \$9-12M. The City currently has 35 grade-separated trail crossings and has identified 30 more. The City has completed a prioritization study for these crossings and plans to update it annually. The Park Planning and Development Department will be updating its Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2020. The City expects the I-25 bridge over the Poudre River to be replaced by October 2022, at which point the City will have the trail constructed to the bridge on the east side of I-25.

Zuniga stated the City received great feedback from Karen Schneiders of CDOT Region 4 on their TAP grant application for the South Boyd Lake Trail and are making improvements to the application now. The City is submitting an MMOF application for the same project. The project is scalable to a range of grant funding scenarios. The Prairie Ridge trail connecting Loveland to Coyote Ridge Natural Area is under construction and the City is working on the Recreation Trail railroad crossing along 57<sup>th</sup> Street east of Sunset Vista Natural Area. The City has a part-time Park Planning position open now if anyone knows of potential applicants.

Davis stated she rode the Poudre Express from Greeley to Fort Collins and back on Tuesday during a test run and was impressed with the service and she would like to organize a bus and bike adventure.

Karspeck stated the walk audit has helped boost considerations for sidewalk improvements in recent budget discussions and thanked all who participated. Town leadership discussed the possibility of a bond for sidewalk improvements. Dusil stated he and Young Winne will continue compiling a technical assistance package to pass along to the Town.

## **5. Future Agenda Items**

Future agenda items may include an NFRMPO 101 Presentation, Voting Member and Leadership Team Appointments, Connect Loveland Scenario Results, Larimer County Multimodal Index, and Weld and Larimer County Community Health Survey Results. The January 8, 2020 meeting will be held at the Loveland Public Works Administration Building at 2525 W 1st Street, Loveland, CO 80537 (Rooms 202 and 203). Parking is limited so attendees are encouraged to carpool or bike. Sign-in at the front desk is required by all and a conference call line will be available.